

Aroostook Band of Micmacs 7 Northern Road Presque Isle, Me 04769 (207) 764-1972 1-800-355-1435 Fax (207) 764-7667

# AROOSTOOK BAND OF MICMACS NOMINATION MEETING AGENDA

April 4, 2021 1:00 P.M.

# **WELLNESS BUILDING**

A.	Meeting	called to	order
----	---------	-----------	-------

- B. Opening Prayer
- C. Approval of Agenda
- D. Community Concerns
- E. Amendments to the By-laws
- F. Nominations (Chief, Vice-Chief & 3 Tribal Council Seats)
- G. Election Dispute Committee
- H. Adjourn

# COMMUNITY MEMBERS PRESENT

Lorraine Blaney	2. Elizabeth Hanning
3. Marilyn Carlton	4. Deborah Vicario
5. Patricia Cronkhite	6. Peggy Brewer
7. Bonnie Brewer	8. Blanche (Gidget) Cullins
9. Beth Diamond	10. John Dennis
11. Sheila McCormack	12. Richard Dyer
13. Christina Donnelly	14. David Donnelly
15. Rosella Silliboy	16. Adam Murphy
17. Frederick Getchell	18. Richard Silliboy
19. Rose Beschler	20. Lisa Henderson
21. Mary Pinette	22. Ayana Green
23. Cherish Cole	24. Clarence Sock
25. Benjamin Small	26. Summer Small
27. Barbara Branscombe	28. Vanninnia Sock
29. Micheal Estabrook	30. Norman Bernard
31. Wesley Miller	32. Rose Ann Davis
33. Dorothy Kawalanski	34. Renee Leach
35. Marcella Walton	36. Roldena Sanipass
37. Justin Wimbush	38. Jennifer Kiandoli
39. Elsa Collins	40. Kooper Kinney
41. Keagan Kinney	42. Margaret Johnson
43. Debora Johnson	44. Nichole Francis
45. Edward Peter-Paul	46. Shannon Hill
47. Dawn Schillinger	48. Samantha Puccio
49. Tom Sock	50. Tasha Stetson

51. Andrea Michaud	52. Naomi Paul
53. Roberta LaBobe	54. Kristy Brooker
55. Brittany Lynds	56. Dena Joseph
57. Tristyn Case	58. Betty Phillips
59. Ronald Silliboy Sr	60. Roberta Silliboy
61. Teresitia Hamel	62. Brandon Getchell
63. Theresa Cochran	64. Jessie Pinette
65. Crystal Martinelli	66. Roger Pictou
67. Sandra McDonald	68. Sandra Pictou
69. Natanya Pictou	70. Benjamin Brigman
71. Ashley Sock	72. Tammy Muir

# **COMMUNITY/NOMINATION MEETING MINUTES**

# **MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:**

Edward Peter-Paul (Tribal Chief) calls meeting to order at 1:18 p.m.

# **OPENING PRAYER**

Richard Silliboy says the opening prayer

*Edward Peter-Paul* – I would like to acknowledge all the past members we have lost over this last year and ask for a moment of silence please.

# **COMMUNITY CONCERNS**

*Richard Silliboy* – Explains why his family member is having difficulties becoming a member. Asks for a show of hands to approve her

Ronald Silliboy Sr. - Discusses why he is against this idea

### MOTION Rescinded

Richard Dyer – I motion to accept Tasha Moreau Marcella Walton – 2<sup>nd</sup>

*Marilyn Carlton* – We need to discuss this if we are going to discuss membership. Gives background information on how things were done and happened in the past.

Ronald Silliboy Sr. – what's the point of having laws if we don't follow them? I think this is illegal to bring it to us

Richard Silliboy Sr. – you, the community have all the authority

Richard Dyer - Victoria Higgins was not naturalized

*Marilyn Carlton* – We are not breaking any laws, there is not any court in this land, in this country throughout the United States that will dictate to any tribe who they can or cannot have on their membership. There is not a lawyer that will touch it. Because we are our own governance, we determine who our membership is.

Teresitia Hamel – I just want to make 2 points. Number 1, there is a motion on the floor and number 2 we will be moving into our by-laws next and if there is a section in there that someone wants to change, amend or address, that is the place to do it and this is the only place to make it happen. So, I would like to ask for a show of hands in favor of the motion unless Richard is going to rescind his motion.

*Roger Pictou* – I motion to table this

*Teresitia Hamel* – you can't have a motion in a motion. We need to follow through with this one before we can move on to yours unless they rescind theirs

*Ronald Silliboy Sr.* – what will stop the next council from removing her, we have removed them in the past. This will just create more problems.

Richard Silliboy – I have asked Richard to rescind his motion

Richard Dyer – I rescind my motion Marcella Walton – I rescind *Teresitia Hamel* – Roger, would you like to move on with your motion *Roger Pictou* – I rescind my motion

Teresitia Hamel – OK everyone rescinded, just one response for Ronnie, the membership committee does all their due diligence and follows all the laws when they go through the membership process Marilyn Carlton – I saw on Facebook a post regarding sexual harassment. My concern is it was not just 1 person and their non-native staff. We had 2 Micmac staff terminated with no options in place. We have no safety net in place for our people. We should offer counseling. When we have a tribal government and administration staff protecting non-native staff... what actions have you taken and our native staff – where they offered a safety net?

*Richard Silliboy* – Council has taken action and we have some more work to do at the next council meeting.

Dawn Schillinger – will that be in executive session?

Richard Silliboy – Yes, it will be in executive session per our personnel policies

4

Andrea Michaud – you were talking about policies that would protect the employee with drug problems Marilyn Carlton – when I was on council, our former TA and HR they came back before this government, with all these changes that was a benefit to the staff who brought the changes and when I brought this up I was threatened by Charlie

Andrea Michaud – as a director, there is nothing to protect the staff that has a drug addiction Marilyn Carlton – I was also questioning financials of the organization, I was asking the TA to bring our financials so council could review them, after 6 months we had every excuse why they were not prepared. When they finally showed up they were 18 inches high, I have 33 yrs. of experience in accounting and I have never seen financials that thick, I have produced financial statements for corporations and the CEO insulted tribal government with my experience. I resigned because I was being threatened to be put out of tribal council chambers because I made a request for documentation and they have that responsibility as tribal council to know that we have certain policies in place and this government signs those documentation.

*Edward Peter-Paul* – when I first came in, we were 2 years behind on our audits, which means we won't qualify for certain funding, and we worked hard to get this caught up and they should have them monthly. Are audits are up to date, they are not the best, we have 7-8 findings.

*Nichole Francis* – there are a lot of repeat findings

Edward Peter-Paul – so we continue to qualify for all our grants. We have come along ways. It's unfortunate that we did not have the same data base now that we had when Marilyn was in Marilyn Carlton – so the tribal government is receiving financial statement now Frederick Getchell – no

*Andrea Michaud* – Fred, that is not true, it is mandatory to send you our documents every three months, I work my butt off to get those statements in. Pay attention a councilor telling you they are not getting them.

Frederick Getchell – you are right, but back at that time, as the treasurer, Norman is now, we were requesting those and apparently, they could not access that information and when Elsa was on she was going to look into it. And we did make it mandatory as a director if you are going to come to our table, you need to have a budget and we need to see where you are, but there are some programs that we don't get that and I think that is what Marylin is talking about and we have come along way, our grants and our audits are doing good because we've had a lot of messes like that we are not going to except look at the Rama money 1,000,000 we had to give back to the government and that could have been used

somewhere else but the CEO at the time was not paying the taxes on wages. The IRS told us we are going to pay that we've come a long way and audits are looking better some of the repeat findings like processes not being done on time and that is still an issue so when I say we don't get accurate finances I can get something on one paper and what is actual is something else, we will get there, we are growing. As professionals we have some departments that really know their stuff and we have some that's lacking *Ronald Silliboy Sr.* – Does Charlie have a CPA, does the CFO

*Andrea Michaud* – yes, they are

Ronald Silliboy Sr. – are you currently getting quarterly reports from finance

*Nichole Francis* – a lot of the concerns had when she was on council were very valid concerns at that point in time and everything was a mess, and when I came on as TA, we have quarterly meetings with finance and the directors and we drill things down so they are not overspending. The concerns you had were very valid and I wanted to note that

*Marilyn Carlton* – it was no particular program and as a board of directors you need to know what you have and what needs to be paid. And what I wanted had to do with the overall budget, and I think the TA at the time wanted to pay 30% over on the mortgages. I just wanted an overall view of what we had on hand

5

Sheila McCormack – we do receive the budgets from the directors in a really nice packet, so Andrea we do receive your budgets, we are talking about finance their part and them two needs to sister Teresitia Hamel – I believe we have addressed that issue and I do believe the consensus is we are asking tribal council to look at our policies and put safety nets in place for our tribal Mi'kmaq employees in our policies and drug policies and I do actually know they are working on those

*Richard Silliboy* – I can say that CFO at the time was a very difficult person to work with and she is gone.

*Teresitia Hamel* – if we can I would like to move into the by-laws, the tribal council and the committee brought changes. These power points line up with the changes in the packet I sent out. 1st power point Name Change from the Aroostook Band of Micmacs to the Mi'kmaq Nation

Ronald Silliboy Sr - I am just concerned that there was a meeting that went on where by-laws were changed and Charlie Peter-Paul wasn't there and the chair person can't vote, the chair person does not have a right to vote if you read the by-laws

*Teresitia Hamel* – I just know that the current by-laws that we have been living under since 2017 *Andrea Michaud* – discussed a council meeting the previous year

*Teresitia Hamel* – that was the meeting the year before, at this meeting we had all nine councilors at the meeting that these ones were passed at and Charlie did not vote

Edward Peter-Paul – so I was the one that recommended the name change and only because in our settlement document it says that we are the sole successors to the Micmac Nation that once was here, one problem that the Maliseet's is having right now is they are trying to get another Maliseet tribe banded in western Maine, so they are saying this is just another band of that so if we can make it the Nation no one else can say that.

*Patricia Cronkite* – I'm ok with the name change but what I want to know is how is that going to affect us with our grants?

*Edward Peter-Paul* – right now all our grants are under the Aroostook Micmac Council so it does not affect it just what we call ourselves and the way it is spelt here is the Mi'kmaq spelling and what all the other tribes in Canada are going to.

Vanninnia Sock – so this won't cause anything legal for us

*Edward Peter-Paul* – no, not for us, we can call ourselves whatever we want, this is more for us, we'll still be underneath the Aroostook Micmac Council

*Vanninnia Sock* – you said the Maliseet's are having their problem with somebody in western Maine, trying to set up a new tribe, we've already experienced that when and are still experiencing that there is a group up in Fort Kent who were on our membership here or removed from our roles and will this help enumerate this problem

Edward Peter-Paul – it wouldn't hurt I do know they have some state recognition and it's a mixed tribe Richard Silliboy – they cannot become a tribe because the four tribes in the state of Maine and shot that down. And the Maliseet tribe in western Maine was also shot down. Like Charlie was saying we can't control anybody up in Fort Kent, they can do what they want, we don't have a say until they try to get federal recognition and then we would have to work with the other tribes to stop that, and we are now in a position in the legislation where the tribes have a voice.

# **MOTION**

Richard Dyer – I make a motion to make the name change from the Aroostook Band of Micmacs to the Mi'kmaq Nation

*Andrea Michaud* – 2<sup>nd</sup>

53 - in Favor 8 - against

Motion Carried

Ronald Silliboy – You wouldn't let me talk, why do we want to stand in their way

*Teresitia Hamel* – I sincerely apologize

Ronald Silliboy – There are tribes in this country with less than 1/10% Indian blood, why should we stand in their way if they want to go to congress and become federally recognized

6

*Richard Dyer* – back in the day, the Passamaquoddy's were squabbling amongst themselves so they took it to congress and congress told them to split into two groups.

Edward Peter-Paul – they have always been two groups since the beginning

*Wesley Miller* – I have a question about the Elder's, we had a perfectly good cook, she had to go to Boston and they fired her. We had good meals and they told her she can't work for 2yrs. Our Chief got fired and voted in a year after.

*Elsa Collins* – can we try to stick to the By-Laws

*Kristy Brooker* – I don't think Wesley had a chance, this may be his only chance to be heard and we should hear our Elders.

Roger Pictou – I have been hearing a lot about policies in place and been in place, our council had drug regulations, if we have policies that are already in place then there is no need to change our laws until our policies are in place. There contradictory to go back further than what Marilyn's brought up, when we first recognized our own by-laws all it took was a member stating that this person was a Micmac member whether they had policies or the paperwork to approve the policies or not

Richard Silliboy – I remember that our membership went from 382 to well over 800 while you were chief

Roger Pictou – yes, and we had the policies in place to do that

*Richard Silliboy* – we had a membership committee that was putting anyone on, we had a member who said my mother is living with a Micmac Indian and wrote it on a piece of paper and put 2 pictures of him in the file, and the committee looked at that and approved him. So, our membership committee has improved a lot

Roger Pictou – my statement is, we are having policies that are not being enacted. We need that before we go changing this

*Richard Silliboy* – every Chief elected in the last 25 years has tried to make changes to the policies *Roger Pictou* – it's not the chief that makes the policy, it's the council

*Richard Silliboy* – so the council usually follows through, it's the recommendations that the council will take a look at and move on if they see fit, but today this council here is making good decisions on good changes, and I will tell you I don't think there is a one of us that would deny taking a drug test on this council

Roger Pictou – let's set it up for two

Rosella Silliboy – why do we have to take that step, what's the purpose for it

*Roger Pictou* – we have an established policy that we are not enforcing but we insist we enforce every other policy

# Indistinguishable

*Teresitia Hamel* – the membership meetings are generally chaired by the Tribal Clerk

Richard Silliboy – let's try and get some order in here

*Nichole Francis* – we actually do not have a current drug testing policy, it is something we are working on with our lawyers to make sure we don't get sued, we do have an active alcohol policy however *Teresitia Hamel* – is there anyone else before I try to move on to the rest of the by-laws, ok it was requested by tribal council to stop any confusion between the by-laws and the election ordinance and membership ordinance to imbed them into our by-laws, and just one quick comment to Roger Tribal policies within the office are for our tribal staff, these are what governs our tribe as a whole so this is the first time we have made any real changes as a whole since I think 2017 of any kind but, 13? Was it 13 I know it has been quite a while.

Roger Pictou – well this is based on 2003

*Teresitia Hamel* – because this one is being amended, I put in red where the 2013 was written because if you look under it, it is scratched out, I put a line through it because it would have to be retitled with the correct date. So, council asked that the membership ordinance becomes part of that one document which would be on pages 1 through 6, so do you want to make the membership ordinance part of the by-laws and is there any discussion on it

7

# **MOTION**

Rosella Silliboy – I make a motion to make the membership ordinance part of the by-laws Beth Diamond –  $2^{nd}$ 

45 in favor 0 against

Motion Carried

*Teresitia Hamel* – there was an error that was pointed out to me, not by council but a community member that on page 5, and you should not have to flip back and forth because this power point is right in tune with the recommended changes, you go to page 5 it says the eleven-member council and it should say 9 because that is all we have is a nine-member council

*Richard Silliboy* – and that stems from the last time we changed the by-laws, they had 11 council people we changed it back to nine but we didn't change the quorum which will change the quorum down to 5 *Teresitia Hamel* – no this won't not this one, that's a separate motion this was just an error pointed out by a community member

Roger Pictou - can you explain that, isn't there 9 members plus chief and vice-chief

*Teresitia Hamel* – no nine total

Roger Pictou – last time I heard

*Teresitia Hamel* – you have Chief, Vice-Chief and 7 council members

*Roger Pictou* – are they at large?

*Teresitia Hamel* – at large? At the council table you will be looking at a nine-man governing body *Roger Pictou* – I know we did away with the districts but

Richard Silliboy – we did away with the districts but we didn't do away with 3 from each district

Wesley Miller – those people that went outside, did they just shut down the meeting

Ronald Silliboy – he just challenged the quorum; business has to stop and you have to count the people

Beth Diamond – Ayanna, are they all just having a cigarette

*Ronald Silliboy* – they have to be in the same room

*Teresitia Hamel* – so you want all those people in the back room to come stand out here, they are part of the meeting and they are counted

Ronald Silliboy – they have to be in the same room when you are counting for a quorum

*Teresitia Hamel* – Ronnie has requested, so Mary, Wesley has basically challenged our quorum so we need everyone who is a member to come into this room so everyone can be counted please.

Naomi Paul – With Covid now you want us all in the same room, why

Rosella Silliboy – because Ronnie said so

Naomi Paul – well my life matters

*Teresitia Hamel* – quorum was challenged and we still have a quorum present (66 present), we need to make the change on page 5 regarding the quorum

### **MOTION**

Rosella Silliboy – I motion to change the number 11 to nine on page 5

Marilyn Carlton – 2<sup>nd</sup>

58 in favor - Motion Carried

*Teresitia Hamel* – the motion was made to remove the word spouse from the definition of immediate family member in the membership ordinance. The reasoning is that with the way it reads right now is your spouse could be classified as a member

Rosella Silliboy – Micmac or not

Teresitia Hamel – exactly, which is why we need to remove the word spouse

### **MOTION**

Patricia Cronkite – I motion to remove the word spouse

 $Naomi\ Paul-2^{nd}$ 

All in Favor -

Motion Carried

8

*Vanninnia sock* – reads from the by-laws under special meeting, quorum – it does not say we all have to be in one room

Ronald Silliboy – what happened to the words that read whichever is greater after the 10% or 60

*Teresitia Hamel* – whoever was the tribal clerk at that time did those, I had nothing to do with that. But if you would like to change that you can do that right now

Ronald Silliboy – I would like it to be researched

*Teresitia Hamel* – so basically you would like me to research the past changes and see if they were correctly entered in regards to the quorum

Ronald Silliboy – yes

*Teresitia Hamel* – on page 7 they wanted to change the word from resign to relinquish just for a more definitive reading is the way I understood it

# **MOTION**

Rosella Silliboy – I make a motion to change the word resigns to relinquishes

 $Beth \ Diamond - 2^{nd}$ 

All in Favor -

**Motion Carried** 

*Ronald Silliboy* – what is the differences in those words resigns and relinquishes

*Teresitia Hamel* – it was a recommendation and I have to follow through on all the recommendations that Tribal Council approved but for me relinquishes is more clarifying that you chose to give it up and the word resign in my mind is not always a choice as in "you resign or you're going to get fired" relinquished is something you chose to give up, but that is only my opinion

*Wesley Miller* – the Aroostook Band of Micmacs was given because that was the people we serviced so are we now going to service the entire state of Maine

Edward Peter-Paul – the service area stays the same regardless of the name

*Teresitia Hamel* – today is Easter and we are all cramped into a room instead of at home with our families and this meeting should be able to take place next Sunday and that is what we are asking to change. To add the words "if the first Sunday falls on a holiday the meeting will be held the second Sunday."

Ronald Silliboy – this wasn't necessary all Tribal Council had to do was postpone this meeting till next Sunday, postponing is a legal procedure you can do, if there was no one here to make up the quorum, Charlie would have had to reschedule the meeting

*Teresitia Hamel* – we would have had to, but if you look at the wording it's "must be" *Ronald Silliboy* – council could have postponed this meeting due to the holidays

### **MOTION**

Patricia Cronkite – I make a motion to add if the first Sunday falls on a holiday the meeting will be held the second Sunday

*Edward Peter-Paul* – first of all their sworn to uphold the by-laws so if the by-laws say must then that is the strongest word you can use

Ronald Silliboy – postponing is a procedure to get around that

Rosella Silliboy – if council chose to postpone this then everyone in this room would have had a fit Roger Pictou – does postponing this to the second Sunday in April interfere with the time frame requirement to coincide with the election coming up the following month

Richard Silliboy – it shouldn't

*Teresitia Hamel* – it could simply read, if the person making the motion agrees, "if the first Sunday falls on a holiday the meeting will be held the <u>previous</u> Sunday" how do you want your motion to read *Roger Pictou* – the Sunday before the holiday

Teresitia Hamel – how would you like your motion to read

9

*Patricia Cronkite* – the Sunday before the Holiday

*Teresitia Hamel* – the motion now reads if the fist Sunday fall on a Holiday the meeting will be held the Sunday before the Holiday

Ronald Silliboy – this wording is the amendment that Tribal Council voted on and approved and

Teresitia Hamel – this community is the ultimate governing body of the Mi'kmaq Nation

Debate on whether or not the wording can be changed

*Teresitia Hamel* – according to Ronnie it has to stay exactly like this

Edward Peter-Paul – we can change it to whatever we want to

Teresitia Hamel – they can I agree

### **MOTION**

Patricia Cronkite – I make a motion as it is read (if the first Sunday falls on a holiday the meeting will be held the second Sunday)

Naomi Paul – 2nd All in Favor

### Motion Carried

Roger Pictou – once again how does this effect the time frame for the election

Edward Peter-Paul – that's in a different section

*Teresitia Hamel* – yes there are specific time frames that need to be met

Roger Pictou – are we going to address that

Teresitia Hamel – well, you're going to get a debate if we do that

Christina Donnelly – I do believe the election ordinance section will take care of that

*Teresitia Hamel* – the next one is on page 8 and the motion reads "I would like to make a motion to amend Article 5 Vote subsection 2 to read as follows: referendum vote will be method used, for matters such as laws, ordinances and special circumstances as recommended by tribal council as stated in Section 3 of the election ordinance and Article 17 of the by-laws during an election year" does everyone understand what a referendum vote is. *Defines what a referendum vote is*.

Rosella Silliboy – so it would be like do we want to use 15,000 for the school

Teresitia Hamel – yes, so the question would be part of the ballot with a box to approve or decline

Ronald Silliboy – that would need to be further defined

Teresitia Hamel – so can we table this until further review

Edward Peter-Paul – cause I was reading that and I think we need to look at that one a little more

### **MOTION**

Ronald Silliboy – I make a motion to table this to a future date  $Marcella\ Walton - 2^{nd}$ All in Fayor - Tabled

*Teresitia Hamel* – I was asked to put his here, our by-laws say that you cannot participate by zoom meetings, teleconference, any of those things I was asked to put it in here to open the discussion especially in situations of a pandemic to allow Tribal Council to conduct their meetings via zoom, teleconference, I open the floor for discussion

Rosella Silliboy – I think this is a good idea, we have a lot of elders and when one person in a family has covid and our elders have to go to that meeting I have to worry when they are there. I think during this pandemic it should but I don't think it should be always

Marcella Walton - I am an elder, I think that's a great idea especially in the winter

*Andrea Michaud* – so on that section there, I do think it's important that councilors do attend meetings because in my opinion it may become abused where they can just sit home and do the council meeting in my opinion

10

*Dawn Schillinger* – if this actually passes today would there be some form of protocol like with an actual yay or nay

*Teresitia Hamel* – I still have to sit somewhere and take all the minutes, verify the vote counts and those kinds of things so that would still have to happen

*Roldena Sanipass* – I was thinking we could add wording like due to unforeseen circumstances like the Covid which is a very good example

*Beth Diamon* – I agree they need to be accountable for being there but remember when Peggy was ill and she was more susceptible and elders are more susceptible so I feel we should have this and not just because I don't feel good I want to stay home

Frederick Getchell – one of the things we will have to take into consideration, I can see some good points and I can see some bad points but you will have to factor in the executive session component, who's going to be on the other side of that video, how are you going to maintain that level of privacy for confidentiality for the people

Beth Diamond – can we add no executive session

Richard Dyer – does this mean that the zoom would be from council chambers or each individual home Richard Silliboy – if I was going to participate by zoom, I would stay home and I would be the only one on zoom

*Richard Dyer* – so there would be the rest of the council in the council chambers on zoom *Teresitia Hamel* – it could be

Frederick Getchell – it could be if they were all asked to be quarantined

Ronald Silliboy – I don't think they should do this, it would alienate the community and as far as the covid goes I don't think this should be permanent if we do use it this should be on a temporary basis. It shouldn't be an amendment to the by-laws it should be a waiver of the by-laws for a specific amount of days. It shouldn't be a permanent part can the community log on and watch this meeting Teresitia Hamel – we are actually working on making that happen for our community members Roldena Sanipass – It's just that sometimes you can't make it to council either a death in the family or even covid which is why I suggested a little more verbiage like circumstances beyond our control Beth Diamond – I would like to motion that Tribal Council can participate via zoom, phone etc. under circumstances beyond our control to exclude executive sessions.

Sheila McCormack – I just feel that we need to take this to a vote but I also wanted to say that not being there, I plan on being there and I understand about the weather and stuff but we have nothing in place to say what's excusable and why you have to be on zoom at this point until we can get something in place, the next meeting I could just say I'm sick can we do zoom so let's take it to a vote Beth Diamon – I rescind my motion

### **MOTION**

Naomi Paul – I make a motion to table this till later Andrea Michaud – 2<sup>nd</sup>

All in favor -

Tabled

*Teresitia Hamel* – this is the quorum for Tribal Council, when they reduced the number of councilors from 11 to 9 the overlooked to correct what a quorum of Tribal Council would actually be which is 5 now, so council made a motion to correct the word/number from 6 to 5. A quorum is half plus 1.

# **MOTION**

Richard Dyer – I make a motion to accept the change as written (I make a motion to amend article 6 section F to read 5 council members instead of 6 for a quorum)

Naomi Paul – 2<sup>nd</sup>

50 in favor 2 opposed -

Motion Carried

*Teresitia Hamel* – council motion to amend article 6 tribal council section I subsection c sub – sub section ii to include spouse/partner

11

# **MOTION**

Roger Pictou – I make a motion to take a 5-minute break Everyone – 2nd

Break

### **MOTION**

Patricia Cronkite - I motion to add spouse/partner into subsection c ii

Naomi Paul – 2<sup>nd</sup>

*Teresitia Hamel* – I don't want anyone confused by the spouse/partner issue. The first motion was under the membership ordinance and this one has to do with conflict of interest

All in favor - Motion Carried

*Teresitia Hamel* – we are now on page 11, reads from slide 12, basically what it is saying is to run for any seat on council you must reside in Aroostook County for at least one (1) year and have Micmac ancestry

*Andrea Michaud* – it just doesn't make sense to add "and be of Micmac ancestry" right there because you are basically saying that someone is not in the sentence just before that, Individuals who are running for Tribal Chief or Vice-Chief may not run for a seat on the Tribal Council. Individuals who are running for Tribal Chief may not also run for Vice-Chief

Christina Donnelly – so there needs to be a semi-colon in there

Andrea Michaud – we can just add the word must, and "must" be of Micmac ancestry

Ronald Silliboy – I don't want a known non-native on our tribal rolls however once they are on our tribal rolls we have to recognize them and if you exclude them from sitting on our tribal government you are setting ourselves up for a loss I mean you are interfering with their civil rights and if we have people on our tribal rolls that are not Micmac then tribal council has to go through the procedures to remove them because once they are on that roll they have every right that we have whether it is programs or our government and that's a dangerous road, we can't stop them but we can chose to not vote for them, we cannot deny them the right to run for public office if they are on the band roll

*Naomi Paul* – so can we change that to be a class A member

Ronald Silliboy – does it say citizen or class A member because it used to say class A member

Roger Pictou – the only ones aloud to vote are class A members

*Ronald Silliboy* – then that is the only ones that can run for tribal council what does our by-laws say, does it state class A members

Patricia Cronkite – it says class A members

*Richard Dyer* – so what happens if someone moves away for a couple years and comes back, do they have to fulfill the one-year requirement again

*Teresitia Hamel* – yes

*Ronald Silliboy* – getting back to proving Micmac ancestry, any court will say that they are Micmac that is asking for a fight tribal council should make a vote that they can run for chief they can run for tribal council and we can't stop them, the only way to stop them is to remove them from our tribal rolls and it should say Class A members of the Aroostook Band of Micmacs

Sheila McCormack – so you're saying it's up to council to boot them off

Ronald Silliboy – you would have to check our membership and see if they meet our ordinance, it will be a little harder for the people on our federally recognized roll because it says an act of congress which is a signature from the secretary of the interior and if they sign off on it and that individual if they decide to sue somebody then they would have to sue the United States of America not this tribe

Sheila McCormack – there was an elder that left because she didn't feel good so she had to leave and she left this with me and she asked if I could add this into this section (reads from document) and must

complete membership criteria pursuant to ABM/Mi'kmaq Nation membership ordinance which was adopted 9-5-2000 ratified by BIA 11-7-2000

*Ronald Silliboy* – we are not talking about the ordinance right now, we are talking about this specific clause

Sheila McCormack – yes right but this can be added on to it

Ronald Silliboy – I wouldn't add nothing to it, I would vote down that amendment if our by-laws already say Class A members of the Aroostook Band of Micmacs, that's all we need

*Sheila McCormack* – yes and your opinion counts as does everybody here so what we need to do is take it to a vote

Ronald Silliboy – we have always started this procedure on those words only as I stated earlier if you want something brought to us bring it to council don't throw it to us at a community meeting

*Sheila McCormack* – I am just speaking on behalf of an elder, Marylin Carlton asked me to read this because she was not feeling well and had to leave

Ronald Silliboy – that's fine but this might not have been the appropriate time to read it because we are discussing that Micmac ancestry is what we are discussing

Sheila McCormack – right and this is part of that to add to it

Ronald Silliboy – it should say class A members and then we are not violating anyone's civil rights Indian civil rights even if they are non-native and, on our rolls, we must consider them Micmac until tribal council takes action to

Sheila McCormack – I just want to respond to that, you as a community member can change any one of these and it will be law if you want a change bring it to a motion and let the people vote on it Ronald Silliboy – there's a process for changing by-laws, tribal council through a vote and then here Sheila McCormack – we've already done our part, now it's up to the community and you can recommend anything to be put in our by-laws

Andrea Michaud – but we are voting on our changes today

Ronald Silliboy – we should vote that reside in Aroostook County at least one year unfortunately because of Micmac ancestry we have to vote that entire thing down we can't pick and choose we have to take that amendment as written

*Sheila McCormack* – then make a motion if that's the way you want it to read without the Micmac ancestry

Ronald Silliboy – no, that is what you guys brought here and that is what we have to vote on as whole Teresitia Hamel – I said the Micmac ancestry is a later motion, if you read the motion that was made at the tribal council table it says at least 18 years of age and must reside in Aroostook County at least one year prior to election, do you see the words Micmac Ancestry in the motion that was made at the tribal council table, it's right up at the top, I put all the motions that were made at the top, that's my fault for not putting the other motion in here as well but this motion reads must reside in Aroostook County at least one year prior to elections

*Ronald Silliboy* – so there are two different parts to this amendment

*Teresitia Hamel* – yes, this is the motion that tribal council made at least one year prior to residence, that's the only thing I can, according to you, which I do disagree with by the way, this is the only motion we can make is to support the motion council made

*Andrea Michaud* – just the one year

*Teresitia Hamel* – that's all we are talking about is just one year to run for any seat on council you must reside in Aroostook County for one year prior to elections

Ronald Silliboy – so we are not including

*Teresitia Hamel* – no, not yet

Richard Dyer – is there a motion

*Teresitia Hamel* – no there is not a motion on the floor yet, Richard. Richard Dyer would like to make a motion

13

### **MOTION**

Richard Dyer – I make a motion to approve the amendment as written "the one-year residency"  $Marcella\ Walton-2^{nd}$ 

49 in Favor 8 opposed - Motion Carried

### **MOTION**

Rosella Silliboy – I make a motion to make the correction under article 8  $Beth\ Diamon-2^{nd}$ 

All in Favor- Motion Carried

*Vanninnia Sock* – employment and tribal council, a member wants to challenge that but bringing it up here, maybe council can revisit that. This tribal member believes that they should be able to work for the tribe and run for a seat on tribal council

Dawn Schillinger – they would just have to recuse themselves if the motion impacts their department Edward Peter-Paul – it is being done across the country

# **MOTION**

Betty Phillips – I would like to make a motion to table the by-laws for another time this is Easter Sunday the holiest day of the year and we are here at a meeting instead of being home with our families and do it at a time when we have more time and we should just jump on to nominations  $Ronald\ Silliboy - 2^{nd}$ 

### Discussion on the motion

Richard Silliboy – I am just curious about how many more items we got

*Teresitia Hamel* – quickly goes through and explains the rest of the amendments

Edward Peter-Paul – you know the one thing I would like you guys to consider in all these changes is the day of elections, we have run into problems with our government during our process, there was one year we had elections and we lost out on oxford casino money because we did not have the representation in Augusta because we were going through an election there were 2 other tribes that got a million each from Oxford Casino and then another year we ran into a problem with our elver fishing's so our quota is not very good, it's 50 lbs. and one tribe has 1600 pounds and another tribe with 300 pounds so we've ran into problems with the timing of our election and that is why I would like to see it changed we are campaigning when congress is in session

Richard Dyer – could we change it to a week end Charlie

Edward Peter-Paul – yeah, I am just saying when we have it in the spring every government is in session if we want to be paying attention to the federal government the state government, we can't be the elected officials can't be campaigning and that is just one thing I've seen

*Richard Silliboy* – and also in 2013 Rick Getchell and I argued for moose permits and we just about had that and Rick was voted out and Charlie was voted in and that bill died

Richard Dyer – was that sustenance on our own land

*Richard Silliboy* – yes, and we almost had it passed and the other thing is our funding comes in in October and then the year is half over and the new Chief comes in with no idea what the budget is or what's happened the last 6 months and then they take the next 6 months to try and learn what's going on *Roger Pictou* – that's why city council gives them 6 months to get up to speed before the election

Sheila McCormack – I just want to say that the subject before this there was a debate on whether or not we change something or add something, right now as it stands if you want to add something to any of these lines, then I am going back to what I wanted to add and bring it to a vote because that is what you were saying just a few minutes ago Ronnie

*Ronald Silliboy* – I am not trying to add anything

Sheila McCormack – right that's why I'm saying for anyone that wants to change or add Ronald Silliboy – that was two different votes according to what Terri said, it wasn't just one amendment it was two amendments

14

*Sheila McCormack* – but they were recommended by council and that's the only ones you want to see right now

Jennifer Kiandoli – so is the problem with changing the election to November but it sounds like to me that there should be a proper succession process so when the new Chief is coming in the old Chief should be debriefing the new chief as well as your officers on council and if that is not happening that's where the friction is happening like when you were talking about the moose permit you were close to getting them had the old chief properly debriefed the new chief then that fight would continue Roger Pictou – there used to be a 30-day transition requirement

*Teresitia Hamel* – no it's not

Frederick Getchell – we always aloud the council who had been elected to come and sit in for that month before taking over, it gave them a little idea to get their feet wet and to understand what's going on you can't take someone winning the votes and merge them in there and expect them to come up and run, yes there should always be something there in place that allows that person a 30-day debriefing period so they are always well versed

Edward Peter-Paul – I got voted in and went in the next day and didn't see Rick.

*Jennifer Kiandoli* – Isn't that the idea behind the staggered terms

*Teresitia Hamel* – so I do apologize but we do have a motion on the floor to table all of this on the floor right now. So if you are in favor of tabling everything else then raise your hand.

33 in favor 18 opposed - tabled

*Teresitia Hamel* – I am going to open the floor up for nominations for Tribal Council:

Nominations for Tribal Council;

Roger Pictou – I nominate Ronnie Silliboy Sr for tribal council

Betty Phillips – 2<sup>nd</sup>

Sandra Pictou – I nominate Natanya Pictou

Dawn Schillinger – 2<sup>nd</sup>

Wesley Miller – I would like to nominate Roseanne Davis

Lorraine Caparotta – 2<sup>nd</sup>

*Dena Joseph* – I would like to nominate Roldena Sanipass

Avanna Green – 2<sup>nd</sup>

Patricia Cronkhite – I would like to nominate Blanche Cullins

Frederick Getchell - 2nd

Beth Diamond – Marcella Walton

Roger Pictou – 2<sup>nd</sup>

Rosella Silliboy – I'd like to nominate Christina Donnelly

Dawn Schillinger – 2<sup>nd</sup>

Frederick Getchell – I nominate Shannon Hill

Richard Silliboy – 2<sup>nd</sup>

Benjamin Brigman – I nominate Sandra McDonald

Roldena Sanipass – 2<sup>nd</sup>

Christina Donnelly – I nominate Brandon Getchell

Sheila McCormack - 2nd

Cherish Cole – I nominate Naomi Paul

Sheila McCormack - 2<sup>nd</sup>

*Elizabeth Hanning* – I nominate Cherish Cole

Cherish Cole – I decline

Richard Silliboy – I nominate Richard Dyer

Frederick Getchell – 2nd

*Vanninnia Sock* – I nominate Roberta LaBobe

Naomi Paul – 2<sup>nd</sup>

15

*Bonnie Brewer* – I nominate Betty Phillips

Patricia Cronkhite – 2<sup>nd</sup>

*Kristy Brooker* – 2<sup>nd</sup>

*Kristy Brook* – I nominate Justin Wimbush

Debbie Vicario - 2nd

Richard Sillboy – I make a motion to cease nominations for the Tribal Council

Rosella Silliboy – 2<sup>nd</sup>

All in Favor -

**Motions Carried** 

Teresitia Hamel – I am now opening the floor for nominations for the Vice-Chief

Patricia Cronkhite - Chief and Vice- Chief

*Teresitia Hamel* – just the Vice-Chief since the Chief and Vice-Chief run separately

# Nominations for Vice-Chief;

Rose Beschler – I nominate Sandra McDonald

Debbie Vicario – 2nd

Christina Donnelly – I nominate Richard Silliboy

*Beth Diamond* – 2<sup>nd</sup>

Roger Pictou – I nominate Frank Hanning

Patricia Cronkhite - 2nd

Rosella Silliboy – I motion to close nominations for Vice-Chief

Sheila McCormack - 2nd

Teresitia Hamel – asked Rosella and Sheila if they were willing to rescind their motions to allow Wesley

Miller to make a motion and they both declined

*All in favor* - Motions Carried

# Nominations for Tribal Chief;

*Lorraine Caparotta* – I vote for Charlie (Edward Peter-Paul)

Natanya Pictou – 2<sup>nd</sup>

Debbie Vicario – I nominate Jennifer Kiandoli

Ayanna Green – 2<sup>nd</sup>

Wesley Miller – I nominate Jennifer Pictou

Marcella Walton - 2nd

Beth Diamond – I would like to nominate Teresitia Hamel

*Vanninnia Sock* – 2<sup>nd</sup>

Richard Dyer – I nominate Frederick Getchell

Bonnie Brewer – 2<sup>nd</sup>

Blanche Cullins – I nominate Renee Leach

Peggy Brewer – 2<sup>nd</sup>

Betty Phillips – I nominate Billy Phillips

Wesley Miller – 2nd

Shannon Hill – I make a motion to close nominations for the Chief

 $\textit{Christina Donnelly}-2^{nd}$ 

All in favor - Motions Carried

Richard Silliboy – I make a motion to adjourn

Beth Diamon – 2<sup>nd</sup>

All in Favor - Motion Carried 4:13 p.m.